



### REMARKS

Claims 1 to 20 have been cancelled. Claims 21 to 31 have been presented for examination. Support for these claims can be found at, for example, original claims 1 to 10 and Example 1. As none of the prior art of record discloses or renders obvious newly presented claims 21 to 31, it respectfully is submitted that the claims are in condition for allowance.

On a related note, the Office is thanked for the courtesy extended to the undersigned representative during a telephonic interview that was held March 3, 2003.

Accordingly, for the reasons set forth above, entry of the amendments, withdrawal of the rejections, and allowance of all of the pending claims respectfully is requested. If the Office has any questions regarding this paper or if they undersigned representative can be of any assistance, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned attorney at the Office's convenience.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on

March 5, 2003

Respectfully submitted,

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